

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A tubular sleeve, comprising:
a base portion having a tapered shape and a lower end and sized to contain a pot;
an upper portion detachable from the base portion via a detaching element; and
a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent to a portion of the base portion, with the decorative pattern having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below the detaching element and the base portion having a zone between the detaching element and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the base portion and wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary and wherein the zone is positioned substantially only above the non-linear upper boundary.
2. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the upper portion is sized to substantially surround and enclose a floral grouping disposed within the pot.

3. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 2 wherein the upper portion is adapted to suspend the tubular sleeve from a support element.

4. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the upper portion is adapted to suspend the tubular sleeve from a support element.

5. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the detaching element and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the detaching element.

6. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the lower end of the base portion has a gusset therein.

7. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the tubular sleeve initially has a flattened state.

8. (Currently Amended) A tubular sleeve for decoratively covering a pot having an upper rim, the tubular sleeve comprising:

a base portion having a tapered shape, an upper edge, a lower end, and
a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent a portion

of the base portion, the decorative pattern or coloring having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below the upper edge of the base portion, and the base portion having a zone between the upper edge of the base portion and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary and wherein the zone is positioned substantially only above the non-linear upper boundary.

9. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 8 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the upper edge of the base portion and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the upper edge of the base portion.

10. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 8 wherein the lower end of the base portion has a gusset therein.

11. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 8 wherein the tubular sleeve initially has a flattened state.

12. (Currently Amended) A tubular sleeve, comprising:
a base portion sized to contain a pot and having a gusset in a lower end thereof;
an upper portion detachable from the base portion via a detaching element; and
a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent to a portion of the base portion, with the decorative pattern having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below the detaching element, and the base portion having a zone between the detaching element and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the base portion and wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary and wherein the zone is positioned substantially only above the non-linear upper boundary.

13. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 12 wherein the upper portion is sized to substantially surround and enclose a floral grouping disposed within the pot.

14. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 13 wherein the upper portion is adapted to suspend the tubular sleeve from a support element.

15. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 12 wherein the upper portion is adapted to suspend the tubular sleeve from a support element.

16. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 12 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the detaching element and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the detaching element.

17. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 12 wherein the tubular sleeve initially has a flattened state.

18. (Currently Amended) A tubular sleeve for decoratively covering a pot, comprising:

a base portion sized to contain a pot and having an upper edge and having a gusset in a lower end thereof, and a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent to a portion of the base portion, the decorative pattern or coloring having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below the upper edge of the base portion, and the base portion having a zone between the upper edge of the base portion and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring and wherein the zone is free of the decorative

pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary and wherein the zone is positioned substantially only above the non-linear upper boundary.

19. (Original) The tubular sleeve of claim 18 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the upper edge of the base portion and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the upper edge of the base portion.

20. (Currently Amended) A plant package, comprising:

a potted plant comprising a pot and a floral grouping, and a tubular sleeve disposed about the potted plant, the tubular sleeve, comprising:

a base portion having a tapered shape and a lower end and sized to contain the pot;

an upper portion detachable from the base portion via a detaching element; and

a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent to a portion of the base portion, with the decorative pattern or coloring having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below

the detaching element and the base portion having a zone between the detaching element and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the base portion wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary and wherein the zone is positioned substantially only above the non-linear upper boundary.

21. (Original) The plant package of claim 20 wherein the upper portion of the tubular sleeve is sized to substantially surround and enclose the floral grouping disposed within the pot.

22. (Original) The plant package of claim 20 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the tubular sleeve comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the detaching element and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the detaching element.

23. (Original) The plant package of claim 20 wherein the lower end of the base portion of the tubular sleeve has a gusset therein.

24. (Currently Amended) A plant package, comprising:

a potted plant comprising a pot and a floral grouping, and a tubular sleeve disposed about the potted plant, the tubular sleeve comprising:

a base portion having tapered shape, an upper edge, a lower end, and a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent to a portion of the base portion, the decorative pattern or coloring having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below the upper edge of the base portion, and the base portion having a zone between the upper edge of the base portion and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring and wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary and wherein the zone is positioned substantially only above the non-linear upper boundary.

25. (Original) The plant package of claim 24 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion of the tubular sleeve comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the upper edge of the base portion and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the upper edge of the base portion.

26. (Original) The plant package of claim 24 wherein the lower end of the base portion of the tubular sleeve has a gusset therein.

27. (Currently Amended) A plant package, comprising:

a potted plant comprising a pot and a floral grouping, and a tubular sleeve disposed about the potted plant, the tubular sleeve, comprising:

a base portion sized to contain the pot and having a gusset in a lower end thereof;

an upper portion detachable from the base portion via a detaching element; and

a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent to a portion of the base portion, with the decorative pattern having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below the detaching element, and the base portion having a zone between the detaching element and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion and wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary and wherein the zone is positioned substantially only above the non-linear upper boundary.

28. (Original) The plant package of claim 27 wherein the upper portion of the tubular sleeve is sized to substantially surround and enclose the floral grouping disposed within the pot.

29. (Original) The plant package of claim 27 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion of the tubular sleeve comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the detaching element and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the detaching element.

30. (Currently Amended) A plant package, comprising:

a potted plant comprising a pot and a floral grouping, and a tubular sleeve disposed about the potted plant, the tubular sleeve, comprising:

a base portion sized to contain the pot and having an upper edge, a gusset in a lower end thereof, and a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent to a portion of the base portion, the decorative pattern or coloring having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below the upper edge of the base portion, and the base portion having a zone between the upper edge of the base portion and the non-

linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring and wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary and wherein the zone is positioned substantially only above the non-linear upper boundary.

31. (Original) The plant package of claim 30 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion of the tubular sleeve comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the upper edge of the base portion and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the upper edge of the base portion.

32-57. (Canceled)